



## Interactions between climate change and contaminants

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**Author(s):** Schiedek D, Sundelin B, Readman JW, Macdonald RW  
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### Abstract:

There is now general consensus that climate change is a global threat and a challenge for the 21st century. More and more information is available demonstrating how increased temperature may affect aquatic ecosystems and living resources or how increased water levels may impact coastal zones and their management. Many ecosystems are also affected by human releases of contaminants, for example from land based sources or the atmosphere, which also may cause severe effects. So far these two important stresses on ecosystems have mainly been discussed independently. The present paper is intended to increase awareness among scientists, coastal zone managers and decision makers that climate change will affect contaminant exposure and toxic effects and that both forms of stress will impact aquatic ecosystems and biota. Based on examples from different ecosystems, we discuss risks anticipated from contaminants in a rapidly changing environment and the research required to understand and predict how on-going and future climate change may alter risks from chemical pollution. © 2007 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

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### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Researcher

**Other Communication Audience:** Coastal managers

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Food/Water Quality, Temperature

**Food/Water Quality:** Chemical

#### Geographic Feature:

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resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Developmental Effect, Other Health Impact

**Developmental Effect:** Other Functional Deficit

**Other Health Impact:** Chemical toxicity;Immune system

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified